



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CURING CHLAMYDIA



Your sex partner has been treated for a sexually transmitted disease (STD) called CHLAMYDIA. You can get it from having sex (vaginal, anal, or oral) with someone who has chlamydia.



- Some people with chlamydia may have a discharge from the penis or vagina. It may also hurt to pee or have sex. Men and women may have pain in their lower belly. Men may have pain in the testicles (balls).
- Many people DO NOT have any symptoms and do not even know they are sick! But they can still pass chlamydia to any person they have sex with.
- If it is not treated, chlamydia can spread in the body and make you very sick. It may prevent men and women from being able to have kids.


### TREATMENT

The best way to take care of yourself is to see a doctor right away. STD testing and treatment are free and confidential at all Los Angeles County STD clinics. You can call the STD Hotline at 1-800-758-0880 for a clinic near you.

If you are not able to see a doctor within a week, take the medicine in the enclosed package or take the attached prescription to a pharmacy.

**The medicine in this package only cures chlamydia. There is a chance you may have other STDs that this medicine will not cure. You should go to a clinic to get checked for other STDs.**

### HOW DO I TAKE THE MEDICINE?

- This medicine is an antibiotic called Azithromycin (brand name: Zithromax).
  - **There are 4 tablets. Take all 4 tablets at the same time by mouth with a glass of water.**
  - Do not share or give this medicine to any other person.
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- Do not have sex until 7 days after you and your partner(s) have taken this medicine because:
    - ⇒ It takes 7 days for chlamydia to go away.
    - ⇒ If you have sex with or without a condom in the next 7 days, you can still pass chlamydia to your sex partners.
  - **If your symptoms do not go away within 7 days of taking this medicine, go to a doctor or clinic right away.**



### **DO NOT TAKE THIS MEDICINE IF:**

- You have a fever
- You have stomach pain, you are throwing up, or have diarrhea
- You are pregnant or there is a possibility that you are pregnant
- You have pain or swelling in the testicles (balls)
- You have a long-term illness like kidney, heart, or liver disease
- You have ever had a bad reaction, rash, or allergy to Erythromycin, Clarithromycin (Biaxin), or Azithromycin (Zithromax)

If you are taking other medications or have any questions or concerns about taking this medicine, call your doctor. If you do not have a regular doctor, call the number that is on the chlamydia medicine packet or prescription.

### **SIDE EFFECTS**

This medicine is very safe and rarely causes problems, but some people may have:

- ✓ Upset stomach (this may also include throwing up and diarrhea)
- ✓ Headache
- ✓ Dizzy feeling
- ✓ Fatigue/ feeling tired
- ✓ Higher chance of getting a rash or sunburn when out in the sun

These side effects are usually not severe and do not last long.

### **SEVERE REACTIONS**

**Although it is rare, you can have a severe allergic reaction to Azithromycin.** You may be having a severe reaction if you have any of these symptoms:

- ❖ Fever
- ❖ Skin rash (all over the body is worse)
- ❖ Pain in the joints
- ❖ Swelling of the face
- ❖ Having a hard time breathing

**If you have any of these symptoms or bad side effects, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room right away! After you get treated, please call the STD program at (213) 744-3070 to report your bad reaction.**

### **PROTECT YOURSELF FROM STDs**

- Use condoms if you have sex
- Limit the number of your sex partners
- Tell your sex partner(s) to get an STD test
- People who get chlamydia once are very likely to get it again. You should get STD testing done at a clinic 3-6 months from now to be sure you are not infected again!



**For more facts about STDs, call the STD Hotline at 1-800-758-0880.**